ने दिनांक 30.4.90 को लगभग एक करोड़ रुपए लेने से इनकार कर दिया था;

(ग) यदि हां, तो किन नियमों के अंतर्गत इतनी बड़ी धनराशि को लेने से इनकार किया गया था;

(घ) क्या दोषी अधिकारियों के विरूद्ध बैंक की धनराशि को सुरक्षित नहीं रखने के लिए कोई जांच की जा रही है और कोई कार्यवाही की जा रही है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० जनार्दनम): (क) से (ङ) स्टेट बैंक आफ इन्दौर ने सूचित किया है कि दिल्ली केन्द्र में उनके बैंक की केवल एक करेंसी चेस्ट शाखा जनकपुरी में है और यह दिल्ली तथा इसके आस-पास की शाखाओं की नकदी संबंधी आवश्य-

कताओं का प्रबंध करती है। तथापि, बैंक की जनकपुरी शाखा दिनांक 30.4.98 को तिजोरी में स्थान की कमी के कारण अपनी नरेला शाखा द्वारा भेजी गई नकद राशि को स्वीकार नहीं कर सकी।

Examining recommendations of Narasimham Committee Report

673. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined all the major recommendations of Narasimhum Committee's Report, submitted to Union Finance Minister recently;

(b) whether Government have decided to carry out changes and more reforms in the banking sector on the basis of above report as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 26th April 1998, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for not accepting the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) to (c) The Committee on Banking Sector Reforms chaired by Shri M. Narasimham has recently submitted its Report to Government. Copies of the Report have been placed in the Parliament Library. The Committee's recommendations cover institutional, supervisory, legislative and banking policy aspects. The recommendations relate to capital adequacy, asset quality, non-performing assets, directed credit, prudential norms, disclosure requirements, systems and methods in banks, structural issues, rural & small industrial credit, regulation & supervision, legal and legislative framework. These recommendations constitute a valuable input into the on-going exercise by Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for reform of the Banking Sector.

Buying/Selling of Rupees/Dollars by RBI/SBI

674. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days between October 1, 1997 and March 31, 1998 when the Reserve Bank of India bought rupees and sold dollars while the State Bank of India did precisely the reverse;

(b) whether Government considers it advisable to arrange greater coordination in banking practice to prevent occcurrences of a similar nature in the future; and

(c) the measures that are under anvil as safeguard against speculation by foreign investors affecting the external value of the rupee?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) The purchases and sales of US dollars against rupees by the Reserve Bank of India in the market constitute the normal operation governing the day to day management of exchange rate of the rupee. The activities of buying and selling of foreign currency against rupees by the banks, including the State Bank of India, is subject to exchange control regulations. The foreign exchange transactions of the banks are also subject to prodential limits. The activities of the banks have been observed to be within the framework of the RBI guidelines. The RBI has been carefully monitoring the

developments and taking appropriate action as necessary.

Private Sector participation in Insurance Sector

675. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to involve private sector participation in Insurance Sector in the Country;

(b) if so, whether there has been great resentment amongst the officers of the indigenous insurance companies on this issue;

(c) if so, whether such a step taken by Government is going to affect adversely on Insurance Companies and also on the economic front; and

(d) if so, the further steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) This matter is engaging the attention of the Government as a part of the overall reforms for the insurance sector. No decision on participation of private companies was taken till the end of previous financial year 1997-98. The policy is, however, under constant review thereafter.

(b) From time to time, representations have been received from the Unions/ Associations of the employees of the Public Sector Insurance Companies against permitting the entry of the Private Sector companies into the insurance sector.

(c) and (d) The interests of the economy in general and the insurance companies and their employees in particular will be kept in view as and when a decision is taken in the matter.

Amount written off as Bad Debt

676. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money written off as bad debts by nationalised banks during the last two years and the details of the money written off by each bank;

(b) whether Government are aware that defaulting parties were again given loans by the same banks; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the amount of bad debts written off by Nationalised Banks during the last two years i.e. 1995-96 & 1996-97 (Bank-wise) are given in the statement. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) RBI collects and disseminates information of defaulting borrowers and suit filed accounts among the public sector banks and financial institutions. The objective of the scheme is to alert banks and financial institutions to put them on guard against the borrowers who have defaulted in the repayment of the dues to the lending institutions. The information circulated by RBI constitutes an input in the process of decision-making by the banks on the basis of their commercial judgement.

Statement

Bad debts written off by the nationalised banks during the last two years

Sr. No.	Name of the Bank	1995-96	1996-97
1.	Allahabad Bank	6.71	21.39
2.	Andhra Bank	1.95	37.42
3.	Bank of Baroda	46.42	70.17
4.	Bank of India	307.08	217.15